

the contents regarding which transfer has been requested, as well as requesting the file name corresponding to the contents. The transfer processing unit 103, upon obtaining the file name from the music price managing unit 104, obtains contents corresponding to the file name from the music piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2 via the music piece managing unit 104, file searching unit 106, and database 107.

The transfer processing unit 103 supplies the obtained contents to the PD plug-in 111-1 or 111-2.

Upon a contents import request from the GUI unit 101, the transfer processing unit 103 supplies the media contents ID corresponding to the contents regarding which importing has been requested to the memory card plug-in 112, as well as requesting importing of the contents corresponding to the media contents ID. The transfer processing unit 103 obtains the contents to be imported from the memory card plug-in 112 along with the corresponding rights information.

The transfer processing unit 103 supplies the imported contents to the music piece managing unit 104 along with the rights information.

Upon a request from the GUI unit 101 to move contents from the memory card 9 to the personal computer 1, the transfer processing unit 103 supplies the media contents ID corresponding to the contents regarding which moving has

been requested to the memory card plug-in 112, as well as requesting moving of the contents corresponding to the media contents ID. The transfer processing unit 103 obtains the contents to be moved from the memory card plug-in 112 along with the corresponding rights information.

The transfer processing unit 103 supplies the moved contents to the music piece managing unit 104 along with the rights information.

At the time of transferring contents to the portable device 5-1, the PD plug-in 111-1 performs mutual verification with the portable device 5-1. In the event that the mutual verification fails, the PD plug-in 111-1 does not transfer contents to the portable device 5-1.

At the time that contents are supplied from the transfer processing unit 103, in the event that the contents are encrypted, the PD plug-in 111-1 supplies the contents along with the data relating to the contents to the portable device 5-1. Upon the contents being supplied from the transfer processing unit 103, in the event that the contents are not encrypted, the PD plug-in 111-1 encrypts the contents, and supplies the encrypted contents along with the data relating to the contents to the portable device 5-1.

Incidentally, the processing for mutual verification may be executed at the point that the portable device 5-1 is connected to the personal computer 1.

At the time of transferring contents to the portable device 5-2, the PD plug-in 111-2 performs mutual verification with the portable device 5-2. In the event that the mutual verification fails, the PD plug-in 111-2 does not transfer contents to the portable device 5-2.

At the time that contents are supplied from the transfer processing unit 103, in the event that the contents are encrypted, the PD plug-in 111-2 supplies the contents along with the data relating to the contents to the portable device 5-2. Upon the contents being supplied from the transfer processing unit 103, in the event that the contents are not encrypted, the PD plug-in 111-2 encrypts the contents, and supplies the encrypted contents along with the data relating to the contents to the portable device 5-2.

Incidentally, the processing for mutual verification may be executed at the point that the portable device 5-2 is connected to the personal computer 1.

The user can further additionally install PD plug-ins to the personal computer 1.

In the following description, the PD plug-ins 111-1 and 111-2 will be referred to simply as PD plug-in 111, unless there is the need to distinguish between the individual PD plug-ins 111-1 or 111-2.

Upon a contents import request from the transfer processing unit 103, the memory card plug-in 112 reads the